THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Erosion of river bed/banks is a natural phenomenon; which occurs in all alluvial rivers including river Yamuna. However, there is no report on land erosion by river yamuna during last three years.

Flood management including erosion control falls within the purview of the State Governments. Government of Delhi has not proposed any scheme to check land erosion caused by river Yamuna for financial assistance to the Union Government, in last three years.

Fund for major/medium irrigation projects

3844. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Water Resource Finance Corporation Ltd. has been incorporated under Companies Act of 1956 in March with an initial paid up capital of Rs. 100 crores contributed by the Central Government;

(b) whether through this Corporation the Centre intends to mobilize large resources that will be required to fund major and medium irrigation projects;

(c) whether States like Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat have taken up construction of large scale irrigation projects;

(d) whether this is in accordance with the anouncement made by the Finance Minister in his budget speech 2008-09 for long term financial assistance for irrigation water resources project; and

(e) to what extent the schemes have been started and results accrued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) (e) Yes, Sir. The Irrigation and Water Resources Finance Corporation Ltd. (IWRFC) has been incorporated on 29.03.2008 with an initial paid up capital of Rs. 100 crores contributed by the Central Government, in accordance with the Finance Minister's Budget Announcement 2008-09. The Corporation is in the process of obtaining requisite permissions for commencement of business.

Pricing policy on ground water

3845. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the management of water resources has become a crucial issue in India which faces enormous strain on natural resources on account of population explosion and improper planning and distribution, the Centre has decided to follow the Planning Commission's expert group report on ground water pricing policy;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has asked the Central Ground Water Development Board to carry out a study over the pricing of ground water; and

(c) if so, by when a final national policy is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Expert Group constituted by the Planning Commission has suggested measures for creating incentives for more efficient energy and water use.

The Central Ground Water Board had organized a workshop to discuss the recommendations made by the above Expert Group.

The National Water Policy, 2006 stipulates that water charges for various uses should be fixed in such a way that they cover at least the operation and maintenance charges of providing service initially and a part of the capital costs subsequently. It further states that the subsidy on water rates to the disadvantaged and poorer sections of society should be well targeted and transparent.

Pendency of projects from Chhattisgarh with C.W.C.

†3846. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects from Chhattisgarh which are pending with Central Water Commission; and

(b) the status of their disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The details of projects from Chhattisgarh which are under various stages of appraisal in Central Water Commission are given as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of Projects	Major/ Medium	River/Basin	District Benefitted	Date of Receipt	Benefits (Th. Ha)	Estt. Cost (Cr.)
1.	Kelo Project	Major	Kelo/ Mahanadi	Raigarh	December 2005	34.555	365.66
2.	Rajiv Augmentation Scheme (Phase-II)	Major	Mahanadi/ Mahanadi	Raipur	November 2004	28.0	127.30
3.	Pairi High Dam & Mahanadi Link Project	Major	Pairi/ Mahanadi	Raipur & Dhamtari	May 2006	77.6	726.36
4.	Sondur Reservoir Project	Major	Sondur/ Mahanadi	Raipur & Dhamtari	October 2005	38.47	394.1
5.	Sukha Nalla Project	Medium	Shivnath/ Mahanadi	Rajnandgaon	February 2007	6.270	91.65
6.	Koserteda Irrigation project	Medium	Koserteda/ Indravati/ Godavari	Bastar	August 2002	11.120	133.63

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.